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THE HARDENED LOYALIST POSITION WAS SUCCINCTLY SUMMED UP IN A BROADCAST YESTERDAY OVER RADIO SAN ISIDRO. THE BROADCAST SOUGHT TO REFUTE THE "MYTH" THAT THERE ARE SOME DEMOCRATIC ELEMENTS REMAINING AMONG THE REBELS. "WITH THE COMMUNISTS THERE CAN BE NO TRUCE," THE BROADCAST WENT ON, "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER IS THE GOAL AND WE MUST REACH IT."

MEANWHILE, THE REBEL LEADERSHIP SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO REVERSE THE BLATANTLY AND VIOLENTLY ANTI-US POSITION IT HAD BEEN TAKING EARLIER THIS WEEK. A MORE COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF CAAMANO'S PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY HAS BECOME AVAILABLE SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST DOMINICAN SITUATION REPORT. CAAMANO CLAIMED TO HAVE DETECTED A "CHANGE" IN THE ATTITUDE OF US FORCES SINCE LAST THURSDAY AND IMPLIED THAT THE US MILITARY IS NOW NEUTRAL IN THE DOMINICAN CIVIL WAR. HE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THAT IF THERE IS GOING TO BE ANY POLITICAL SOLUTION, "WE WILL HAVE TO TALK WITH THE AMERICANS" AND HE EXPRESSED HIS REGIME'S WILLINGNESS TO DO SO. HE WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE IMBERT GOVERNMENT AS A "CREATION OF THE US," THUS IMPLYING THERE THERE IS NO NEED FOR HIS FORCES TO ENGAGE IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS DIRECTLY WITH THE IMBERT FORCES.

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THERE WAS A SECOND ATTACK ON THE POLICE POST AT VILLA GONZALEZ DURING THE NIGHT OF 20-21 MAY BY A GROUP OF BETWEEN 25 AND 30 REBELS. THE POLICE IN THIS TOWN, WHICH IS CLOSE TO THE IMPORTANT CITY OF SANTIAGO, REPELLED THE ATTACK WITHOUT CASUALTIES FOR THE SECOND SUCCESSIVE NIGHT.

IN LA ROMANA, ANOTHER POTENTIAL TROUBLE SPOT, THE STRONG SUGAR WORKERS' UNION HAS ASSURED THE MANAGERS OF THE US-OWNED SUGAR PLANT THAT THEY WILL GO ON STRIKE BEFORE NEXT TUESDAY --UNLESS THE REBEL CAAMANO GOVERNMENT CALLS FOR A NATIONAL STRIKE. THE UNION LEADER INSISTED UNEQUIVOCABLY THAT IF CAAMANO CALLED FOR SUCH A STRIKE, HIS UNION WOULD IMMEDIATELY COMPLY.

THERE ARE SOME SUSPICIONS THAT LIEUTENANT COLONEL FERNANDEZ DOMINGUEZ MAY NOT HAVE MET HIS DEATH ON 19 MAY IN THE MANNER REPORTED BY THE REBEL GOVERNMENT. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT FERNANDEZ, THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR IN CAAMANO'S CABINET AND A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF JUAN BOSCH, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE DIED DURING THE ABORTIVE ATTACK ON THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE ON THE NIGHT OF 19 MAY.

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FOOTER TEXT

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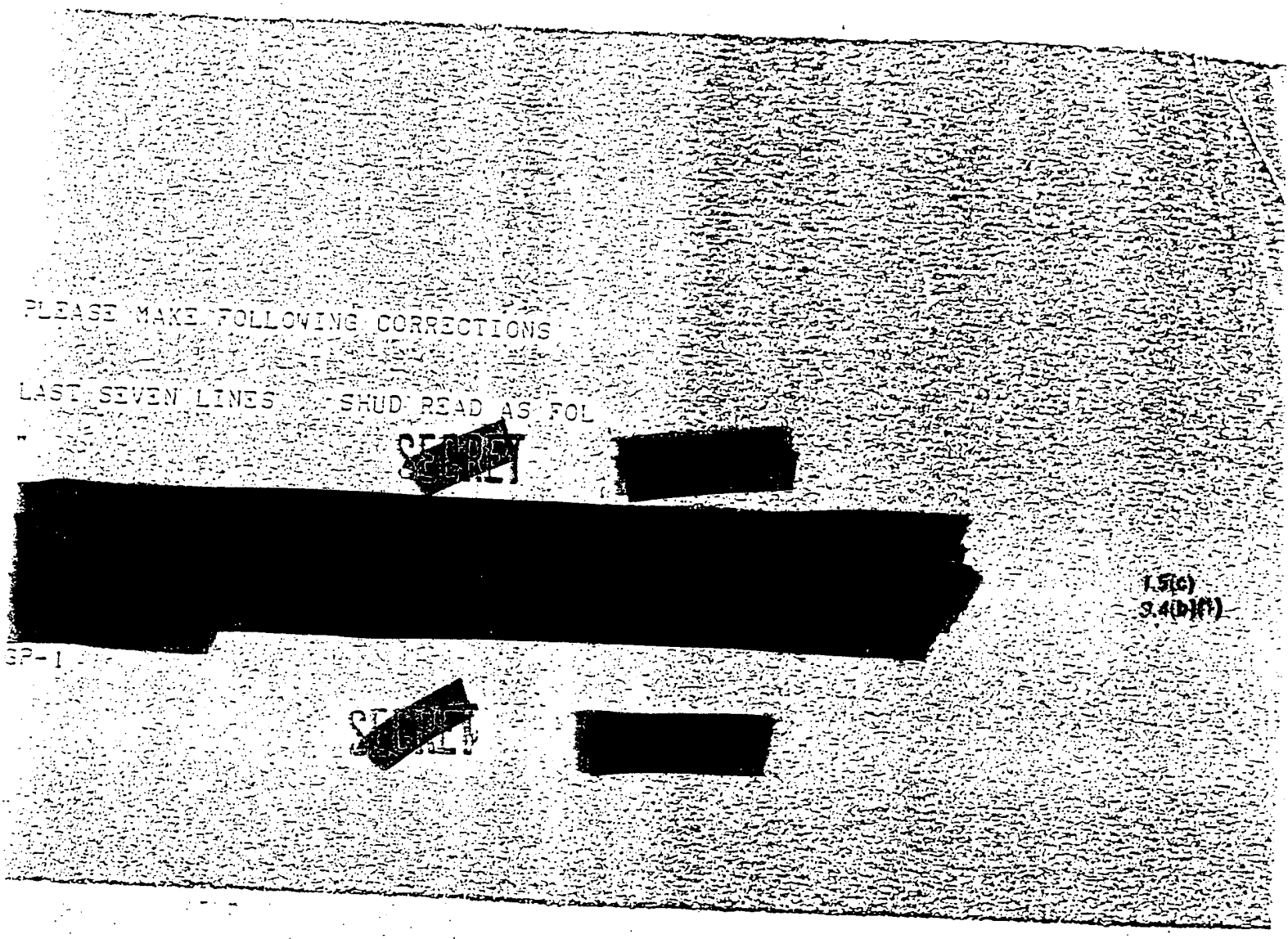

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